

Dr. Jodie Sengstock Testimony on House Bills 5090 & 5091

Thank you Chairman Callton and committee members for allowing me the chance to testify in on House Bills 5090 & 5091. My name is Dr. Jodie Sengstock and I practice podiatry in West Bloomfield, Michigan. I am also a Past-President of the Michigan Podiatric Medical Association (MPMA) and the current Director of Public Relations for MPMA. I have been a practicing Podiatrist for 20 years.

I am here today on behalf of the MPMA and its members asking you to support House Bills 5090 & 5091. Maintenance of certification has become a very time consuming and VERY expensive process for Podiatrists in Michigan and nationally. Our association fears that this has become nothing more than a money grab.

The American Board of Podiatric Medicine requires that we take an assessment examination every 10 years and we must demonstrate current active surgical practice by submitting proof of active surgical privileges from a hospital or surgery center. The cost of this is almost \$1,700 for us to continue our maintenance of certification. This is on top of \$300 in dues paid to the board every two years or we lose our certification. We are also required to submit multiple patients charts in their pre-determined format that is tedious and very time consuming...or they will be rejected.

And, as Dr. Canfield testified to, there is research and data available that shows that maintenance of certification does not correlate with patient-care abilities. A study from 2012, led by John Hayes, MD, of the Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, compared performance data of 71 MOC-required and 34 MOC-grandfathered physicians at four VA medical centers, including Zablocki, for 12 months starting in October, 2012. The ten performance measurements ranged from colorectal screening to blood pressure control to post-myocardial infarction use of aspirin. It found "there were no significant differences between those with time-limited ABIM certification and those with time-unlimited ABIM certification on 10 primary care performance measures."

There are also other recent studies done confirming these findings.

Other states legislatures have started to become aware of the burden maintenance of certification puts on health care providers. Oklahoma became the first state to enact a law aiming to remove maintenance of certification (MOC) as a requirement for physicians to obtain a license, get hired and paid, or secure hospital admitting privileges. Just prior to that, Kentucky's governor signed a more limited measure that prohibits making MOC a condition of licensure

If you talk to any medical professional today about the state of their practice you will probably hear the same thing. We are spending less and less time with patients and more time riddled with bureaucracy. Electronic Medical Records (EMR), PQRS, and constant billing issues have pulled us

away from patients and forced our practices to spend thousands of dollars annually to avoid reimbursement penalties.

By eliminating the maintenance of certification you are easing a financial and professional burden on health care professionals without compromising care. I again thank you for allowing me to testify and ask that you support House Bills 5090 and 5091.